

ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

A method and apparatus for adjusting the coating diameter and/or thickness during production of an elongated member being coated. In the preferred embodiment, the elongated member is an optical fiber. The apparatus includes a coating unit having a sizing die with an orifice through which the elongated member is conveyed, the diameter the orifice being adjustable. This is achieved by providing a helical spring in the sizing die with the inside of the spring defining the orifice. A tensioning mechanism adjusts the tension of the spring by causing relative rotation between opposite ends of the spring to change the diameter of the orifice. The apparatus further includes a measuring device, disposed downstream of the coating unit, for measuring the diameter of the coating; and a controller for adjusting the diameter of the orifice in response to the measured diameter of the coating.

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